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Seini Matangi

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U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
OCT 17 2001  
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Patent  
Attorney's Docket No. 002010-603

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of )  
YEDNOCK, et al. ) Group Art Unit: 1653  
Application No.: 09/127,364 ) Examiner: D. Lukton  
Filed: July 31, 1998 )  
For: ANTI-INFLAMMATORY )  
COMPOSITIONS AND METHOD )

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**  
**FOR CPA APPLICATION FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d)**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, entry of the following amendment is respectfully requested.

**In the Claims:**

Please add Claims 24 through 36 as follows:

24. (New) A method of screening for therapeutic compounds effective in treating an inflammatory condition, comprising  
adding a test compound to an assay system which measures an amount of alpha-9 integrin binding to an alpha-9 integrin ligand, and